



9 March 2022

(22-2132)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English/French

NOTIFICATION

1. Notifying Member: <u>CANADA</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2. Agency responsible: Health Canada
3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Cellulose and microcrystalline cellulose (ICS Code: 67.220)
4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All trading partners <input type="checkbox"/> Specific regions or countries:
5. Title of the notified document: Notice of Modification to the <i>List of Permitted Anticaking Agents</i> to Extend the Use of Cellulose and Microcrystalline Cellulose to Cubed, Diced, Grated or Shredded Plant-based Products that Resemble Cheese. Language(s): English and French. Number of pages: 3 https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2022/SPS/CAN/22_2038_00_e.pdf https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2022/SPS/CAN/22_2038_00_f.pdf
6. Description of content: Health Canada's Food Directorate completed a premarket safety assessment of a food additive submission seeking approval for the use of cellulose as an anticaking agent in non-dairy (i.e., plant-based) cheese flavoured preparations that are grated, shredded, cubed or diced. Both cellulose and microcrystalline cellulose are already permitted as anticaking agents in cubed, diced, grated or shredded cheddar cheese and other standardized varieties of cheese, as well as unstandardized cubed, diced, grated or shredded cheese preparations. The results of the premarket assessment support the safety of cellulose and microcrystalline cellulose for use as anticaking agents in plant-based products that resemble cheese that are cubed, diced, grated or shredded. Consequently, Health Canada has extended the use of cellulose and microcrystalline cellulose as described in the information document by modifying the <i>List of Permitted Anticaking Agents</i> , effective 1 March 2022. The purpose of this communication is to publically announce the Department's decision in this regard and to provide the appropriate contact information for those wishing to submit an inquiry or new scientific information relevant to the safety of these food additives.
7. Objective and rationale: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests.

<p>8. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:</p>
<p>9. Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: Health Canada's Food and Nutrition - 'Public Involvement and Partnerships' Website, posted 1 March 2022 (available in English and French): https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/food-nutrition/public-involvement-partnerships.html https://www.canada.ca/fr/sante-canada/services/aliments-nutrition/participation-public-partenariats.html</p>
<p>10. Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): 1 March 2022</p> <p>Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy):</p>
<p>11. Proposed date of entry into force: <input type="checkbox"/> Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): 1 March 2022</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Trade facilitating measure</p>
<p>12. Final date for comments: <input type="checkbox"/> Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): 14 May 2022</p> <p>Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</p>
<p>13. Text(s) available from: <input type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</p> <p>The "Notice of Modification to the List of Permitted Anticaking Agents to Extend the Use of Cellulose and Microcrystalline Cellulose to Cubed, Diced, Grated or Shredded Plant-based Products that Resemble Cheese" is available through the following weblink: https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/food-nutrition/public-involvement-partnerships/modification-permitted-anticaking-agents-cellulose-cheese.html (English) https://www.canada.ca/fr/sante-canada/services/aliments-nutrition/participation-public-partenariats/modification-agents-antiagglomerants-autorises-cellulose-fromages.html (French)</p> <p>Canada's Notification Authority and Enquiry Point Technical Barriers and Regulations Division Global Affairs Canada 111 Sussex Drive Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0G2 Canada Tel: +(343) 203 4273 Fax: +(613) 943 0346 E-mail: enquirypoint@international.gc.ca</p>